

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 2010, September 28, 1957

## SUMMER HOLIDAY WITH A SPADE

### Digging up an ancient village at Canterbury

*Digging up history can be just as exciting as digging for buried treasure. It also is like detective work: you are uncovering the mystery of how people, your own ancestors, lived before they were able to write or during times when records were destroyed. But it has to be a slow business because of the care which must be taken. Much land has to be dug over, and objects found must be checked for their dates before the archaeologist can arrive at his conclusion. As a scientist, he is concerned with facts—facts about people as he is fitting one more small piece into a gigantic jig-saw puzzle.*

For my summer holiday this year, writes a CN correspondent, I went on an archaeological excavation or digging party in Canterbury, organised by the London University Extension Summer School. Among other things, we were advised to bring with us a four-inch pointing-trowel, a pen-knife, a hand brush, a six-foot steel tape, and some drawing instruments.

On our first day, after two short lectures to "put us in the picture," we collected a packed lunch and flask of tea at headquarters and climbed into a bus crammed with

Archaeology being a methodical business, we first of all measured out the ground carefully into seven-foot squares, leaving a baulk or small space between the squares for pushing the wheelbarrow. These baulks would be broken down at the end of the dig.

Two of us were allocated to each square to remove the top grass and soil, and by the end of the afternoon we had earth in our shoes, clothes, and hair.

Next morning we found a black cat sitting on the side of our trench. And we had some luck, too! We found some sherds

At about two feet down, we started using our trowels. Although picks and shovels can be used lightly, there is always the danger of cracking pottery with them.

A lot of things were beginning to turn up now. In one square a stone foundation, was found and large pieces of burnt bones. The latter were sent away to London to be analysed. Then, because nails were appearing all over the site, the position of each one had to be measured and plotted on paper so that, slowly but surely, we began to build up a picture of an early settlement of some kind. For the nails lay where the huts had been.

But it was just before the end of the "dig" that we made our most exciting find. In one corner of our square was a patch of dark soil—soft and easy to cut through, like cheese. It was a post hole—that is, a hole in which a post had once stood but had rotted away.

#### OUR BEST FIND

We isolated it and scraped out the hole—it was very deep. Then, at the very bottom, sticking out of the wall of the square, we made our best find—the complete base of a large piece of bowl which had been made about A.D. 200—half-way through the Roman occupation of Britain. In the earth around were more pieces of bowl. We were about to remove them when the supervisor stopped us. For we should have destroyed the vertical line of our wall. So our precious finds would have to remain until the baulks of soil were broken down.

The morning before I was due to leave, I worked in the potting shed. Here each find was washed, labelled on the back with Indian ink, and put into bags telling exactly from what depth of soil it had come and from which part of the site. Some of the coins and bronze and metal objects had to be taken back to headquarters to be cleaned with special chemical preparations.

By the end of the "dig," post holes had appeared in every square as well as a variety of pottery.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

Thus we established that there had been some sort of early settlement there, probably belonging to a small and not very wealthy Belgic community. Our discoveries, when linked with further excavations, would tell more fully what life had been like in those days.

Many of our finds would take their place in Canterbury museum. And, when the full history of Canterbury comes to be written, we shall have the satisfaction of knowing that we helped to write it with our spades.

(pieces of broken pottery), roof-tiles, fragments of 17th-century clay pipes, and a coin. All these we put in our labelled tray, which we kept on the edge of our square and noted down in our site diaries.

The top layer of soil had been turned over so many times by the plough that it contained a mixture of all ages. It was not until the fourth day, when we were eleven inches down, that we made our first important find—a large nail. This might be an insignificant thing in itself, but what was it doing there and why? Perhaps it had helped to support the beam of a Belgic house, which had rotted away. We would have to dig deeper to find out.



Our correspondent (in the pit) makes a find

### Lively young performers

The antics of the London Zoo's two new leopard cubs from India cause much amusement.



## SORTING MAIL BY ELECTRICITY

A machine which will sort letters and printed papers, turn them round the right way, and postmark them is to be tried out at Southampton during the next few months.

To make this possible, a special printing of 3d. and 2d. stamps has been made. These stamps carry one or two very narrow black lines beneath the gum, according to their value, consisting of a substance called naphthadag (a solu-

tion of graphite and naphthalene). These lines are, in effect, electrical conductors.

As the letters pass through the sorter, scanners pick out the lines on the stamps, and high-voltage currents will deflect the letter into its appropriate pile.

In order to get enough stamps into general use, they will be on sale in the Southampton area for a few weeks before the machine starts work.

### MAKE WAY FOR THE FIRE-ENGINES

Sirens, as well as bells, are to be fitted to fire-engines at Hull. Tests have shown that sirens are more effective in traffic, but they will not be used at night.

Hull also has a street warning system of bells and lights controlled at the central fire station. When an appliance is called out all traffic lights on the route are switched to red and the street fire bells ring so that traffic can pull to the side of the road and stop.

### £1000 PLANE

An aircraft which costs only £1000 and flies for £1 an hour has been built by a Leeds industrialist, Mr. T. Fairclough, the managing director of Service Engineering Company, Ltd. Two of these low-priced aircraft have already been completed and sold to private owners.

The machine, a two-seater monoplane powered by a 65-h.p. engine, is likely to be popular with private flyers.

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# POLITICS IN THE SEASIDE AIR

## Party conferences of Labour and Conservatives

By the CN Political Correspondent

THERE will be strong echoes of the recent Trades Union Congress at the conferences of the two major political parties, Labour and Conservative, at Brighton. At both, as at the Congress, prices and wages and general industrial matters will be the chief topic.

Parties are what their members make them. • Their conferences are little parliaments, focusing attention on issues of the day and helping to form future policy.

The Conservative Party, whose origins (though not its modern shape) can be traced back perhaps to the Cavaliers of the Civil War, has survived the opposition of the old Liberal Party, which sprang from the Whigs; and for the rest of this century at least we can expect to see it sharing responsibility for government with the Labour Party, which emerged in 1900.

Popular government in Britain is in effect a double compromise. First there is the compromise within each party to get a majority agreement on methods and sometimes even on principles. Then follows the parliamentary process—carrying out policy by legislation—during which details are often modified by the work of the Opposition.

### REVOLTS IN THE PARTY

There always have been, and always will be, revolts in both parties against courses adopted by their leaders. During those revolts the critics will accuse their leaders of acting contrary to party principles, and the leaders will reply that conditions have changed.

In the Conservative Party the "rebels" tend to be diehards—they dislike modern trends and prefer to rely on methods which proved safe and true in the past. In the Labour Party (a reforming party), the spur to action is applied by the Left, those who want more radical reforms.

These movements in the parties, touched on here in the briefest way, should be borne in mind now that the conference season has opened.

### IMPORTANT WEEK

The Labour Party, the party of the official Opposition at Westminster, will begin its week's work next Monday—and a very important week it will prove. When in opposition a political party concentrates on creating, or re-shaping, policy for the next general election. That is what this conference is doing.

Traditionally the Labour Party is committed to a programme of nationalisation. That is, it believes every worker will be happier and richer if industries and services are owned not by private persons but by the State.

At this conference the main dispute here is the method of taking over industries to add to the list of those nationalised by the 1945-50 Parliament—transport, fuel and power, and civil aviation, to name the chief.

The present proposal is to take over other industries by a State

purchase of shares in them. The existing State industries were taken over direct and outright, and this method is preferred by "old-fashioned" Socialists both in the party and the T.U.C., its ally.

It is on this question of nationalisation that the gulf between the two political parties emerges most clearly. The Conservatives believe in free enterprise, the Socialists in a planned economy with key industries under State control.

### RIVAL CLAIMS

The Conservatives claim that State industries, because they do not face competition, do not produce cheaply and therefore tend to increase the cost of living. (A rise in State coal prices, for instance, raises the cost of production in other industries.) Labour critics reply that prices have gone up and inflation has increased because the Conservative Government removed controls from the private sector of industry.

Many Conservatives are worried about this problem. At their conference which opens on October 10 they will criticise the Government for not having done more to stabilise the cost of living, but they will also no doubt blame the policies of those basic industries which the Labour Government nationalised in 1945-50.

Both parties will be meeting this year at Brighton. From a personal point of view the Conservative conference may prove the more interesting, because on the closing day Mr. Macmillan will be making his first big policy speech to the party as Prime Minister.

### Double help



Paul and Sam Cordani, 12-year-old twins, spend much of their spare time helping the boatmen on the Serpentine in Hyde Park.

## Home of the Richmond Lass

That famous Yorkshire regiment, The Green Howards, may shortly set up their museum in Hill House, Richmond, the town where the regiment has its headquarters.

Hill House was at one time the home of Miss Anne Millbanks, who married the poet Byron. But it has a better claim on the affections of Yorkshiremen as the home of "The Lass of Richmond Hill."

The lass of Richmond Hill was a beautiful girl named Frances l'Anson (or Janson), and the song was written by an Irish barrister named Leonard MacNally, who fell in love with her while on a visit to the romantic old Yorkshire town, and afterwards married her.

Hill House has been threatened with demolition because the cost of repair would be nearly £8000, but it should be possible to raise even that large amount from the thousands who have served in a famous regiment, and the thousands more who have loved a notable love song.

## FAMOUS AIRCRAFT'S RESTING-PLACE

Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith's famous three-engined Fokker aeroplane, the Southern Cross, is to be moved to its last resting-place at Amberley air station, near Brisbane, in a few months' time.

Southern Cross, which probably did more pioneering of international air routes than any other aircraft, is to be dismantled and moved by road from Sydney, but will be reassembled at 14 towns along the route where local people want to pay their respects to "the old bus," as its world-famous pilot used to call it.

## OLD GIANT ON THE HILL

After three years of patient work, one of the two huge and mysterious figures cut in the chalk on Wandlebury Hill, near Cambridge, has been almost cleared of turf.

More than 2000 years old and covering an area of 7000 square feet, the figure appears to be that of a goddess standing beside a horse or dragon. Until photographs have been taken from the air, this will not be certain.

When the work is complete, the Cambridge Preservation Society, who own the land, will keep the figure in good repair.

## MICE IN THE WORKS

Mice make their nests in strange places. At Rawmarsh, near Sheffield, a car taken to a garage for repair was found to have a mouse's nest blocking the exhaust manifold. To add insult to injury, the nest was made from bits of carpet from the back of the car.

At Spetchley, Worcestershire, a farmer started to use his combine harvester after a few days of bad weather. After a few minutes the machine burst into flames.

The fire was put out and the cause was sought—and found. A mouse had made its nest on the exhaust manifold.

## News from Everywhere

### Young artist



Susan Brady, 18, is a student at the Kingston (Surrey) Art School, and wants to be a fabric designer. Here she is working on an oil painting entitled Autumn.

The atomic-powered submarine Nautilus will be among the 29 U.S. Navy ships visiting Portland from September 30 to October 10.

Idle for 25 years, the great water-wheel at Abel Fletcher's Mill at Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, will soon be working again.

### MORE COCOA

Cocoa production is increasing. The world's output this season was 900,000 tons—60,000 tons more than last season.

Two streets of the U.S.A.F. housing estate at Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, are to be named after R.A.F. heroes of the last war.

Of 2000 children's cycles inspected by the police at Poole, Dorset, 1000 were found to be faulty.

### TRUANT BIRD

A racing pigeon taking part in a cross-channel race was found in Massachusetts. It is thought that it "hitch-hiked" on a liner.

Sixteen of the new student-teachers in Derbyshire are pupils who left the same schools last July.

### SOME CABBAGE

A cabbage weighing 71½ lb. was on show at Burton-on-Trent.

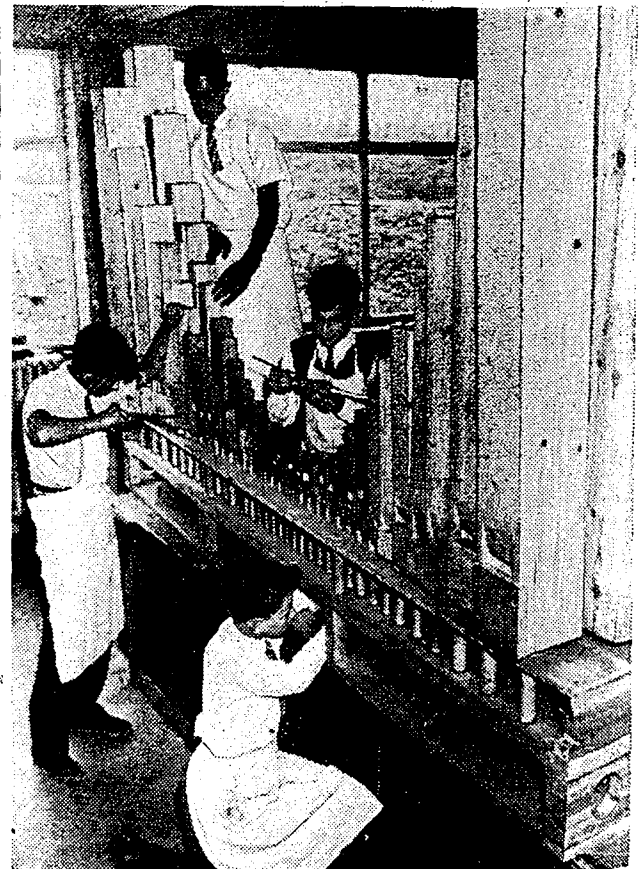
A total of 570,000 bird and animal passengers passed through London Airport last year.

### 3000 MILES OF CABLE

The British cable ship Monarch recently laid over 3000 miles of telephone cable between San Francisco and Honolulu. She was working under charter for the American Telephone Company.

### LONG ARM OF COINCIDENCE

While standing on the rocks at Scarborough an angler picked up a strip of metal from a name-punching machine. The name on it was his own!

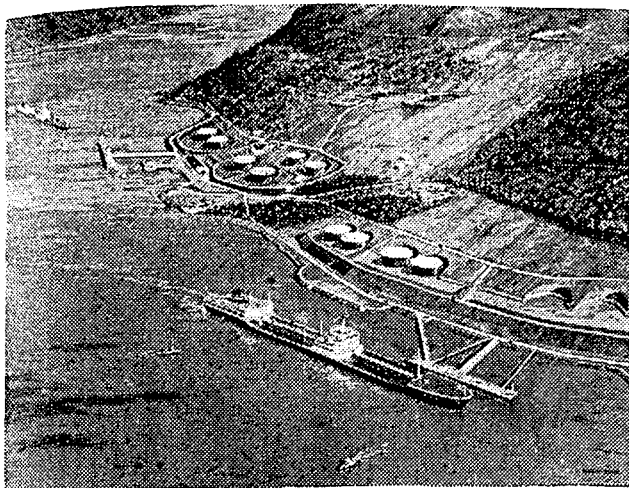


## Building their own organ

Boys at Whitefield Secondary School, Cricklewood, London, are building an organ for their school hall.



## Birdseye views



A new tanker jetty is being built at Finnart, on Loch Long, Scotland, and the picture above is an artist's impression of what the oil installations will look like when completed. Below are the stepping stones across a rooftop watergarden of a Guildford, Surrey, department store.



## POWER UNDER THE CHANNEL

Work is likely to start this year on a Channel power cable between Dungeness and a point a few miles south-west of Boulogne. The cable will be 31 miles long and made jointly by Britain and France. It will link the electricity systems of the two countries and enable the surplus power of each to be transferred during the respective peak periods.

Special precautions will be taken to prevent ships' anchors from fouling the line, and also to prevent possible interference with ships' compasses.

## THE HELICOPTER SCARED THEM

A helicopter which landed at a station near Alice Springs, Central Australia, caused the Aborigines working there to take cover behind bushes and ant-hills. They were scared of the "debbil debbil" aeroplane, which they were seeing for the first time in their lives.

A big plane lands at this station regularly with mail and food and they take little notice, but the helicopter was so different that it caused alarm.

## D'YE KEN JOHN PEEL?

A lady recently wrote to a Scoutmaster at Kineton, Warwickshire, asking for the name of one of his patrol leaders who had saved her son from drowning. The Scoutmaster, had heard nothing of the incident, but inquiries showed that the modest rescuer was John Peel.

While fishing at Compton Verney, Warwickshire, John Peel heard cries for help and saw another boy trapped in the weeds. Instantly he dived in, helped the exhausted lad to free his legs, and held him up until other Scouts arrived.

The rescued boy, also a patrol leader, was Richard Killpack, of Middleton Cheney, Northants.

John Peel afterwards said that he considered he had been amply rewarded by the Northants Scouts Badge Richard had given him—he collects them. But John is to be recommended for an award.

## SEVEN GOBLETs FOR SIR MALCOLM

Seven crystal goblets have been presented to Sir Malcolm Sargent by the BBC Symphony Orchestra to mark his retirement as chief conductor.

Each of the goblets, which were made in Holland, has an engraving representing one of the seven movements from Gustav Holst's suite, The Planets.

## MAROONED ON A BELL-BUOY

Two Trinity House engineers had an alarming experience the other day when they were stranded for five hours on a 12-foot bell-buoy in heavy seas three miles south of Workington. They had been taken to the buoy in a fishing boat but as soon as they were landed on the buoy the boat's engines failed and she drifted away.

The owner was rescued by a coaster and sent an urgent message for a lifeboat to go to the help of the marooned engineers.

Sea-sick with the buffeting of a rough sea and deafened with the clanging of the buoy's warning bell, the two men eventually managed to get aboard the lifeboat by climbing on rescue nets thrown over the side.

## Lighting a city

Most of our cities and great towns are well lighted at night; but behind that service is a story of continuous planning and work.

Here are some figures from the annual report just issued of the Sheffield Lighting Department which give an idea of the greatness of the task.

The city has 737 miles of lighted streets, 372 miles still lit by gas.

During the past year, 54,931 gas mantles and 37,379 electric lamps were used in maintaining the city's lights; 3295 telephone messages were received reporting faults—including 573 from the police and 314 from the general public.

## Rock 'n' roll school

A new school at Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, has been called a "rock 'n' roll" school, because it is designed to resist local sinking of the ground due to coal mining. A thin concrete foundation is laid over a bed of sand and the walls consist of spring-loaded frames. When there is any subsidence the school just rocks on its bed of sand and the walls take the strain by moving into a new position.

All future schools in the county are to be built on this principle, and coal mining is to start almost at once under the first one at Bancroft Lane.

## Australia sends us weeds

Weeds from Australia have been found on a farm at Flitton, Bedfordshire, and it is thought that the seeds came to this country in shoddy, the woollen waste used as fertiliser.

## MICROSCOPES FOR CN READERS

Microscopes for the entries in CN Competition No. 22 have been awarded to the following: Anthony Brentnall, Addlestone; Christine Findley, Leicester; David George, Orpington; Robert Waddell, London, S.W.3; and Martin Willson, of Oxford. Book Tokens for the next-best efforts go to: Marion Dickson, Belfast; Josephine Fenner, London, S.W.11; Margaret Fowler, High Wycombe; Kathleen Holroyd, Loughborough; Deborah Moberly, of Chislehurst.

SOLUTION: 1, 1000. 2, 1485. 3, 1648. 4, 1620. 5, 1856. 6, 54.

## Without a home

There are still about 900,000 Arab refugees in the Middle East who have little hope of finding permanent homes in the near future. About half of them are living in tents or crowded villages in Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria. All the rest, like the mother and child in this picture, are in camps



operated by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

Supported entirely by voluntary contributions from governments and individuals, UNRWA supplies a daily ration to all the refugees. It has also started a wide variety of educational and training schemes to help refugees to earn their living.

## BIBLE AWARDS

Ten thousand Bibles are again being distributed by Nottinghamshire Education Committee to schoolchildren transferring from junior to senior schools in the county. This is the second year of the scheme for distributing Bibles, which have specially strengthened covers in anticipation of hard wear.

## YOUTH AND MUSIC

### Fine concerts at the Festival Hall

All keen young musicians in the London area will be interested to know of the treat in store in the Robert Mayer Concerts for young people. There are two series, one for under-sixteens and the other for over-sixteens, and they all take place on Saturday mornings at the Royal Festival Hall.

The London Symphony, London Philharmonic, and Sadler's Wells orchestras have been engaged and so have the London Mozart Players.

The dates are November 16 and 30, 1957; and February 1 and 15, and March 8 and 29, 1958, for seniors; and October 19, November 2 and 23, December 14, 1957; and February 8, March 1 and 15, 1958, for juniors.

Applications for tickets should be made, not more than one month in advance of each concert, to Box Office, Royal Festival Hall, S.E.1.

## HE LIFTED AN ELEPHANT

Lifting a baby elephant from a jungle fort in Malaya and carrying it by helicopter to a game reserve was among the exploits of Flight Lieutenant W. F. Burke of 155 Squadron, Royal Air Force, Kuala Lumpur, who has become the first helicopter pilot in Malaya to complete 1000 hours on Whirlwind machines.

During that time he has lifted nearly 3000 soldiers into and out of the jungle and nearly 50,000 lb. of freight.

Lieutenant Burke was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross last year.



## Balanced family

The Prestidge family of Sidecup, Kent, are becoming well-known for their gymnasts. Here, in their garden, Janet, the eldest daughter, is balancing mother, while father supports his two younger daughters, Margaret and Mary.



# ERNEST THOMSON WRITES ABOUT RADIO AND TELEVISION PERSONALITIES AND PROGRAMMES

## BACK TO SCHOOL ON THE HOLIDAY SPECIAL

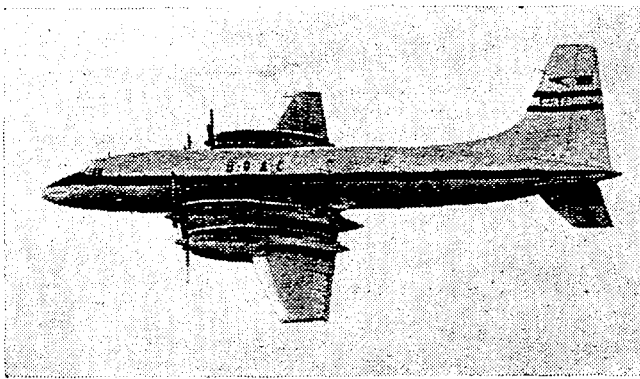
## THE BONES ARE NOT A DAY OLDER

A BRITANNIA flight shared by Children's Hour listeners and viewers of BBC Children's TV—that is the exciting prospect offered in Holiday Special. That is the name of the programme, but it happens also to describe the B.O.A.C. service which is run every September to bring back children from the Far East to their schools in Britain.

Trevor Hill, BBC Children's Hour organiser in the North, set out recently from London Airport with film cameraman Gerry Pullen, flying east by way of Bangkok (Thailand) to Hong Kong. They planned to record material for a Children's Hour programme on October 24 and to film shots for Children's Television early in November.

On their outward journey, before they had been joined by the children, they intended to concentrate mainly on the flight and the work of the crew.

By the time you read these lines



The turbo-prop Bristol Britannia

it is expected they will be on their way back, having picked up the plane at Hong Kong on its journey from Tokyo, together with about 50 children, nine of them Japanese. Their route takes them through Bangkok, Calcutta, Karachi, and Frankfurt.

It was hoped to find a British boy or girl to be filmed at home

in Hong Kong, then in school in this country. Between Hong Kong and Bangkok the Britannia carries a Chinese stewardess, and the children have a Chinese meal with chopsticks.

Trevor Hill tells me he believes this will be the first time that films and recordings have been made on a Britannia in flight.

### Top of the Form again

TOP OF THE FORM comes back at 7.30 p.m. this Thursday for a four-month session in the Light Programme. As usual, Producer Joan Clark is starting up the first round with boys' schools against the girls'. There are four members in each team, aged 12, 13, 16, and 17.

The question masters are again John Ellison and Robert MacDermot, with questions set by Tom Williams.

Thursday's contenders in this popular quiz programme are the County Grammar School for Boys, Penzance, v. The High School, High Wycombe.

Here are the other schools com-

peting in the first round, with the dates:

Grammar School for Boys, Dudley, v. High School for Girls, Kettering, Oct. 3; Birkenhead Institute (Boys), v. Middlesbrough High School, Oct. 10; Wallace High School, Lisburn, Northern Ireland, v. Cookstown High School, Oct. 17; Dr. Williams' School, Dolgelly, Wales, v. Neath Grammar School, Oct. 24; Ardwyn Grammar School, Aberystwyth (Girls), v. Canton High School, Cardiff, Oct. 31; The High School, Kirkcaldy (Girls), v. Kilsyth Academy, Nov. 7; Banff Academy (Girls), v. Galashiels Academy, Nov. 14.

### The last of the great buccaneers

FOR real history, which needs no spicing with fiction to make it thrilling, the adventures of Sir Henry Morgan—"the last of the great buccaneers"—are well worth listening to on Monday evenings in the Light Programme. Though the first chronicle was last Monday, you can listen at any time as each episode is self-contained.

Henry Morgan, a short, quick Welshman of ferocious courage, operated in the Spanish Main in the mid-17th century. The Governor of Jamaica, Sir Thomas Modyford, enlisted Morgan's help as protection against the Spaniards, setting him up with a fleet. Thereafter he was the terror of the Spaniards in the West Indies, and his disappointment was great when England at last made peace with Spain. However, he was finally knighted by King Charles II in 1675, returning to Jamaica as Sir Henry, a rich land-owner and Commander-in-Chief of Jamaica's forces.

Anthony Newlands plays Sir Henry Morgan, with Felix Felton as Sir Thomas Modyford. Fred Yule is the bo'sun, and John Ruddock the Councillor.

To steep his cast in the atmosphere of the sea while the recordings were being made, Producer Alfred Dunning took them on board Scott's Antarctic sailing ship *Discovery*, on the Thames Embankment, where they were photographed in costume.



Anthony Newlands as Sir Henry Morgan

### Make a radio for less than £2

ARE we in for a new craze for building radio sets at home? It looks like it. The Radio Society of Great Britain, as I mentioned to you three weeks ago, had a Make-It-Yourself section on their stand at the National Radio Show. Now, in BBC Television's Studio E programme next Monday,



Vera McKechnie and Kim the Keeshond

Gilbert Davey starts a new series on making a sound radio set for less than £2.

It may seem odd that TV should be encouraging ordinary listening in this way, but the BBC is anxious that interest in sound radio should not be allowed to languish. Besides, you can get a lot of fun out of a sound receiver you have built yourself, and you certainly could not make a TV set at home for forty shillings!

By the way, look out for Kim the Keeshond. He has been appointed regular Studio E Dog. Each week, accompanied by TV announcer Vera McKechnie, he plans to introduce a dog guest.

NORMAN and Henry Bones, the boy detectives of BBC Children's Hour, have found the secret of perpetual youth. Though they started their radio careers in July 1943, they are not apparently a day older, and this in spite of featuring in nearly 80 Children's Hour plays, not counting repeats and Request Week broadcasts.

Their escapades have been translated into languages as varied as Norwegian and Maltese, and at any time of the day or night they may be on the air somewhere in the world on the BBC Transcription Service.

On Saturday they are in another new adventure in Children's Hour

called *The Passage Under the Lake*. The tale is set in Sussex, where, at a well-known barrister's large country house, there is an ornamental lake with a tunnel under it. As usual, Norman and Henry are played by Charles Hawtrey and Patricia Hayes. Richard Williams will be heard as the barrister.

The Bones came into existence accidentally. Anthony C. Wilson, the author, who is a master at Seltonfleet School, Cobham, Surrey, was one day persuaded by his class to tell them a story. He made up a Bones adventure there and then, and has never stopped since.

### Danger, men at work

LISTENING at ease on Saturday afternoons to other people at work has a special fascination, especially when the work is dangerous. In four 15-minute Light Programme spots at 2.45 p.m. on Saturdays, starting October 5, Alan Dixon will be heard describing various risky jobs at close quarters in Watch Your Step.

In the first, he will talk through a microphone inside an oxygen mask as he walks through an oil refinery storage tank in Essex to find out how it is cleaned. A week later he joins the "chasers" who brake the trucks as they run through the 21 sidings of British Railways' marshalling yards near Stratford, in east London.

Two other items will be a visit to a Dagenham blast furnace, and balancing on the brickwork with teams demolishing buildings and chimney stacks.

### Congo to have a rest

CONGO, the chimpanzee of Granada TV's Zoo Time programme, will be sadly missed. Recently he developed pneumonia after fits of coughing and was admitted to the sanatorium at the London Zoo. The veterinary report said that without complete rest for the next few weeks there was a danger that he might become really ill.

The illness of Congo made no difference to plans to exhibit his paintings at the Institute of Contemporary Art Gallery in London, where they have been on view with some by Betsy, a chimpanzee of Baltimore Zoo who appears regularly on American TV.

### Brothers on TV and sound

Twin brothers Ross and Norris McWhirter will be covering the A.A.A. England versus Poland athletics match at the White City on September 25 for BBC radio and TV. Ross will be reporting on the Light Programme between 9 and 9.15 p.m., with a ten-minute summary at 10.20 p.m.; while his brother Norris, with Roger Bannister, will be giving the TV commentary between 8.30 and 9.15 p.m.

### Schools broadcasts

WITH Schools TV in the limelight this week, it should not be forgotten that Schools Radio has an immensely bigger following at the present time. The BBC says that about three-quarters of all schools in the United Kingdom are now registered as listening to one or more of the radio broadcasts provided for them.

The school radio term, which began in the Home Service on Monday, continues its programmes almost as in the last school year.

### BOOKS TO BUY

#### SNAIL AND THE PENNITHORNES

By BARBARA WILLARD

Illustrated by Geoffrey Fletcher

"Snail and the Pennithornes is a delightful book you will all enjoy. It is about a boy and girl who go caravanning with an author. The story includes puppetry, a child film star, and a mild adventure, but it is not for these that I recommend it, but for a fresh style and characters that come alive. Look out for more books by Barbara Willard, she is a delightful writer." —Noel Streatfeild in *Young Elizabethan*: 9s. 6d. net

#### Mr. TWINK, DETECTIVE

By FRED A HURT

Illustrated by Nina Scott Langley  
This is yet another complete story about that sagacious half-Siamese cat, Mr. Twink, and his powers of detection. 7s. 6d. net

#### LITTLE KARIN

By EBBA EDSKOG

Translated from the Swedish. Illustrated by Geoffrey Fletcher  
A book that is different. Karin is a lovable girl, the drawings are delightful, and the adventure, though exciting, are always credible. —*Young Soldier*. 8s. 6d. net

THE EPWORTH PRESS  
25-35 City Road, London, E.C.1

# GRAND NEW BOOKS FOR AUTUMN READING

## THROUGH THE AGES

*The Village by the Stones*, by Wilfrid Robertson (Phoenix, 12s. 6d.)  
In a series of well-told and exciting incidents, this book takes us through the ages to tell the story of a village on the fringe of the Cotswolds. The village has a fictitious name and imaginary characters, but the account of them is built round known fact. All who have a favourite village of their own will be inspired to find new interest in it if they read this book.

## SURPRISE ENDING

*No Match for the Maitlands*, by Sheila L. Mills (Frederick Warne, 8s. 6d.)

All good detective stories have surprise endings, and this one is no exception. It is about some youngsters whose mother becomes manageress of a Lake District hotel when counterfeit notes begin turning up in the neighbourhood. There is also a blind professor staying at the hotel, a tramp with lots of money, a crippled author, and a mysterious foreigner. The problem appears to be fairly simple, but . . .

## IN KING ARTHUR'S DAYS

*Merlin's Ring*, by Meriel Trevor (Collins, 12s. 6d.)

Here is a gripping yarn based on the idea of a modern boy making a journey into the past. Felix Meyrick finds an ancient ring which conjures up the shade of Merlin, who grants his request to be transported back to the time when King Arthur was struggling against the Saxon invaders of Britain. His adventures at Aquae Sulis (Bath), where he is accepted as a British prince, make lively reading.

## EVERGREEN LEGEND

*Robin Hood*, by Antonia Pakenham (The Heirloom Library, 7s. 6d.)

Told and re-told, filmed and televised, the tales of the merry outlaw of Sherwood Forest never lose their charm, and here an exciting new version is offered us in an attractive volume, illustrated with eight colour plates and numerous drawings of Little John, Friar Tuck, Maid Marian, the Sheriff of Nottingham, and all the other immortals.



One of the many illustrations in a fine new edition of PINOCCHIO, the story of a puppet (The Heirloom Library, 7s. 6d.).

## SIMPLY TERRIFIC

*The Little Banditta* by Karel Jaeger (Pitman, 10s. 6d.)

PACITA is the Little Banditta who holds people to ransom for ten per centio, and she operates in Mexico—a slightly mad Mexico, but a very attractive spot, to judge from the many delightful pictures.

Much of the story, which is short, takes place in and around the village of Santo Peculio, where they have strange ideas. For instance, when they wish to hide their money from bandits they throw it down the village well and then throw the bank manager in to look after it.

There are lots of Mexican expressions, of course, but they are all explained in a list at the end—except a few like that of Pacita's father, who hears some unexpected news and says, "I am flabbergastio."



RUBY FERGISON

The sixth of a popular author's books about Jill and her ponies and other good companions (Hodder and Stoughton, 9s. 6d.)

## ADVENTURE IN INDIA

*Valley of the Lost Trail*, by Stuart Gurr (Angus and Robertson, 10s. 6d.)

YOUNG Barry Cantwell was warned not to let his friend Lakhsman out of his sight, but he little realised what this might mean. For Lakhsman is the true heir to the throne of an Indian State, and Barry has to go with him to find the fabulous diamond without which he cannot be crowned. They go through the barren parched valley into which few men have ever dared set foot; and their encounters with bandits, tiger, and crocodile make this a really out-of-the-ordinary story which simply has to be read to the last page.

## SOUTH PACIFIC INDUSTRY

*The Amateur Company*, by Ronald Syme (Hodder and Stoughton, 10s. 6d.)

THE little island of Arorangi in the South Pacific was off the normal shipping routes and no one had ever been interested in spending money to develop its natural resources. No one, that is, until the Amateur Company—Joe, Uncle Ben, and two young American engineers—set to work.

With great ingenuity they devise means for canning pineapple, drying and storing coconuts, producing starch from shrubs, and so on. Life may be leisurely on the island, but Mr. Syme tells his story at rattling pace.

## DAWKS AGAIN

*Dawks on Robbers' Mountain*, by Meta Mayne Reid (Macmillan, 12s. 6d.)

IT seemed just an ordinary holiday when the Peytons—Della, Nicholas, "Bap" and his jackdaw Dawks—went to stay for a few days with a cousin in Northern Ireland. But that was before their adventure on Robbers' Mountain, and the discovery that burglars were in the district. There were several other mysteries to be solved, too, but as readers of the previous Dawks books will know, the Peytons have a knack of getting to the bottom of things.

## TREASURE AND LAUGHTER

*Mrs. Wappinger's Secret*, by Florence Hightower (Bodley Head, 10s. 6d.)

ALREADY acclaimed in America, this amusing tale concerns a search for buried treasure. But it is treasure known only to the amiable and eccentric Mrs. Wappinger and her young friend Charlie, and their efforts are regarded with derision by everybody else on Osprey Island, off the New England coast. But those two have the last laugh.

## IN OLD VIRGINIA

*Red Man's Country*, by Philip Rush (Collins, 10s. 6d.)

THE stirring story of Captain John Smith in Virginia is well known, and here it is told again in great style. The central figure in this story is John Brookes, a crippled yet sturdy lad who is saved from ruffians by the timely arrival of Captain Smith. John sails with the gallant captain to found a colony in the New World, there to endure the perils and hardships of the pioneers. As Captain Smith's faithful servant, John is ever by his side, and he is there when the beautiful Princess Pocahontas saves his master from death.

## A HOME OF THEIR OWN

*Treasure in the Dark*, by Marion Connock (Hutchinson, 8s. 6d.)

THE Carruthers children had never had a real home, for their father was a soldier, serving in Malta. They were at boarding school when they learned that their father had succeeded a distant relative as the 18th Lord Remys, with a centuries-old manor on the Cornish coast. Alas, there was no money to carry on the estate; but the children, aided by the "ghost" of an ancestor, laid plans which led to a happy ending.

## LIFE DOWN UNDER

*The New Zealand Twins*, by Daphne Rooke (Jonathan Cape, 8s. 6d.)

THIS homely yarn is a delightful addition to the publisher's "Twins" books, describing how children of various countries live. Everyone will take to these New Zealand twins and their odd friend, Invercargill Bill the "swagman," who tramps about the country doing odd jobs and solemnly telling tall stories. With these and other engaging characters we share the adventurous life of young people on a North Island farm.

## DONKEY WHO ANSWERS BACK

*About Barney*, by Anne Casserley (Faber 9s. 6d.)

IRELAND is famed for its donkeys and Barney is true to the traditions of his kind. But he has a special claim to fame because he is able to answer back when necessary. Often the despair of the farmer who owns him, Barney is usually at the root of any trouble in the neighbourhood and his adventures are in keeping with the land of legend where he lives.

## FAST AND FURIOUS

*A Hundred Million Francs*, by Paul Berna (Bodley Head, 10s. 6d.)

WHEN a gang of poor young Parisians corner five crooks concerned in a mail van robbery, you can guess that the fun is fast and the crooks are furious.

And that is what this tip-top story is all about. A prize-winner when first published in France (and no wonder) it has been excellently translated. All ten members of the gang seem real people—from Marion, be-friender of stray dogs who can whistle a hundred hounds to her help at any moment, to little Bonbon, who hasn't got much farther than the "Bang, you're dead" stage.

The whole tale turns about an old toy riding horse, on three wheels, which the gang use for exciting down-hill runs in a quiet street. Then, one day, two tough-looking customers try to buy it from them and eventually steal it. The climax comes in a deserted factory for making carnival novelties with the rival forces knee-deep in paper streamers and false beards.

It would make a fast and funny film.



MARY MAPES DODGE

Illustrated by Felicie Devine

A fine new edition of a classic story about a Dutch family (Collins, 7s. 6d.).

## SWISS SAGA

*Avalanche!* by A. Rutgers van der Loeff (University of London Press, 12s. 6d.)

HERE is another absorbing true-to-life story. Its vivid description of what happens when an avalanche strikes a Swiss village won it the title of The Best Children's Book of the Year when it was published in Holland. Admirably translated from the Dutch by Dora Round, it is a story of heroism in disaster and above all, perhaps, of the basic kindness of most human hearts.



Beautifully illustrated in colour, this is a book which will delight the young dog-lover (Warne, 7s. 6d.; paper-boards, 6s.).

## FRED AND I AGAIN

*Saturday Adventure*, by John Pudney (Evans Brothers, 9s. 6d.)

THAT inquisitive pair, "Fred and I," stumble on hair-raising experiences in unlikely places, and this time it is a North Downs quarry. A "Danger Keep Out" sign does not deter them from cycling through a gap in a wire fence; but later they find that the gap has been closed behind them, and the Saturday Adventure that follows is no part of a quiet weekend.

This yarn, sixth of John Pudney's series of thrillers, that began with Monday Adventure, will not disappoint his readers.

## OTHER RECOMMENDED BOOKS

THE OBSERVER'S BOOK OF RAILWAY LOCOMOTIVES OF BRITAIN, edited and revised by H. C. Casserley (Warne, 5s.)

YOUR PUPPY AND HOW TO TRAIN HIM, by H. V. Beamish (Faber, 12s. 6d.)

HOW TO DRAW BRIDGES, by W. P. Robins (Studio Publications, 5s.)

THE STORY OF A GREAT SHIP (The Titanic), by Joseph E. Chipperfield (Hutchinson, 10s. 6d.)

GREAT MEN OF SCOTLAND, by Theo Lang (Bodley Head, 8s. 6d.)

REACH FOR THE SKY, an abridged version of the story of Group Captain Douglas Bader, by Paul Brickhill (Collins, 10s. 6d.)

MODERN MAGIC MANUAL (a practical text book for students), by Jean Hugard (Faber, 20s.)

BBC CHILDREN'S ANNUAL, edited by Freda Lingstrom (Burke, 7s. 6d.)

THE WORLD IS FULL OF WONDERS, a picture encyclopedia with 280 wonderful photographs (Thames and Hudson, 35s.)

THE SCOUT ANNUAL, by Rex Hazlewood (Pearson, 12s. 6d.)

## FOR YOUNGER READERS

THE ANIMALS AT ROSE COTTAGE, by Doris Rust (Faber, 8s. 6d.)

PRICKLY PIE, by Racey Helps (Collins, 4s.)

THE WISHING STAR, by Ella McFadyen (Angus and Robertson, 6s.)

DOG TOBY, by Ella Monckton (Warne, 4s. 6d.)

HONEY MOUSE, by Anita Hewett (Bodley Head, 9s. 6d.)

POLUTIN AND THE RED INDIANS, by Norman Mommens (Faber, 10s. 6d.)

A FISHY TALE, by Beryl Cooke (Angus and Robertson, 10s. 6d.)

THE LITTLEST REINDEER, by Johanna De Witt (Windmill Press, 7s. 6d.)



# Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House  
Whitefriars, London, E.C.4  
SEPTEMBER 28 . . . . . 1937

## RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

MR. JOHN MARSH, Director of the Industrial Welfare Society of London, gave an address on Youth in Industry at the recent annual meeting of the Boys' Brigade, and he ended with these words of advice on living a full life:

*To seek God's will, honour the Queen, cherish family life, stand by your friends, be charitable towards the unfriendly, respect promises and contracts, take account of the other man's point of view, do a good day's work without exploiting others, use imagination and find purpose in working and living, bring success to a society ordered by the votes of fellow citizens, achieve prosperity humbly, overcome adversity with courage and humour, bring about progressive peace with honour in industry and in the world.*

They are words we would all do well to remember: they are, in fact, a recipe for a Successful Life, in the finest sense of the term.



OUR HOMELAND

A quaint little corner of Knutsford, Cheshire

## HERE COMES OUR SCHOOL

As a rule, schools welcome pupils: but in the little Rhodesian mining town of Kansanshi, not long ago, it was the pupils who welcomed the school. About 30 eager children gave a mighty cheer when they saw a truck appear with the new school on its back. Made in South Africa, the school was carried in separate parts to Kansanshi. Workmen took only an hour and a half to unload a classroom, unfold the walls, set them up, and install desks, chairs, windows, and electric light fittings.

## Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper, October 1, 1927

IT is probable that the United States police will shortly be supplied with pocket wireless sets.

The whole device is contained in a small box which fits the pocket and holds, among other things, a miniature valve and tiny batteries. The policeman will also be provided with a pair of collapsible ear-phones, and the aerial will consist of a short wire stretching from the lapel of his coat.

When an alarm is broadcast from headquarters a tiny lamp in the policeman's jacket will light up; this is the signal to listen-in. He will take out his ear-phones and, provided he is not more than 3½ miles away, will be able to listen to any announcements from his station.

# The Editor's Table

## Ever Onward

NEW ZEALANDERS will celebrate the 50th Dominion Day on Thursday. It was on September 26, 1907, that their country changed from a Colony into a Dominion, and every year since then this day has been proudly celebrated as Dominion Day.

Looking back over the years, our kinsmen Down Under have good reason for pride. New Zealand has led the world in establishing Old Age pensions, women's suffrage, and the settling of industrial disputes by arbitration. Her story has been one of continual progress, fully in keeping with her motto, which is simply Onward.

## Dancing to fame



Francesca Kenny of Gillingham, Kent, is only twelve but she has been taking dancing lessons for seven years and has won many prizes.

## Just a leg pull

SIR EDMUND HILLARY, New Zealand's Antarctic leader, was mystified recently by radio enquiries about his broken leg. Both of his legs being perfectly sound, he and his companions wondered how the rumour could have started.

The explanation seems to have been that a foreign radio operator in the Antarctic, overhearing a bantering conversation between Scott Base and Shackleton Base, heard a reference to Sir Edmund "having his leg pulled." Unfamiliar with this colloquial expression, he concluded that the Conqueror of Everest had met with an accident and thus started the rumour on its rounds.

## THEY SAY . . .

TODAY opportunity knocks a thousand times for every boy and girl in the kingdom.

Sir Anthony Eden, in a handbook for youth organisation

THE schools have aimed far too much at teaching pupils the content of other men's minds and too little at training them to discover the capacity of their own.

Mr. R. R. Hancock, President, Incorporated Society of Head Masters

THE schoolchild who goes shopping with and for the family acquires a great deal of general knowledge, and so builds up a steadily increasing vocabulary.

Dr. M. K. Pringle, of Birmingham University

## Think on These Things

THE Psalmist said that he would express his thankfulness to God for His good works by the offering of sacrifices. These were, of course, the sacrifices of animals of which wealth in those days largely consisted. But the sacrifice which God now wants from us, and by which we can express our thankfulness, is the offering of our lives to His service.

We can only do this with the help of Christ. We remember how Jesus gave His life for us and we offer our life through Him to God as what we call "a living sacrifice."

Finally the Psalmist calls to those who love God and says that he will tell them what God has done for his soul. The Christian is always one who will want to tell others what God has done for him. When God answers our prayers, as He does, we can tell other people how God has helped us and met our need.

And we must always remember that the best witness is the example of our lives.

O. R. C.

## JUST AN IDEA

As Izaak Walton wrote: Look to your health, and if you have it, praise God, and value it next to a good conscience; for health is the second blessing that we mortals are capable of.

## JUST A FEW WORDS

HERE is an entertaining way to increase your knowledge of words. Each numbered sentence below is followed by three answers or comments you might make; but, in each case, only one is correct and shows that you have understood the meaning of the word in italics. To answer five or six correctly is very good.

(Answers are given on page 12)

- He came with his *minions*.  
A—A lot of money.  
B—A crowd of hangers-on.  
C—Some strange ideas.
- I admire her *resilience*.  
A—She can be ruthless.  
B—Knows when to keep quiet.  
C—Quick to recover.
- Mine was a *Herculean* task.  
A—Extremely difficult.  
B—Very humble.  
C—Often repeated.
- The decision was *rescinded*.  
A—Cancelled.  
B—Welcomed.  
C—Strengthened.
- He is an *itinerant* tradesman.  
A—Not to be trusted.  
B—Very high-class.  
C—Wanders from place to place.
- They were a *motley* crowd.  
A—Shabbily dressed.  
B—Oddly assorted.  
C—Villainous looking.

# Out and About

JUST inside the wood, on a dry patch partly sheltered by briars, was a heap of small debris—bits of twigs, bark, soil, and leaves. Wood-ants in twos and threes came round the trunk of an old oak tree to the small mound of rubbish and disappeared, for underneath was their nest.

Foraging excursions by the ants get less and less as autumn advances, but just to remind us that there was a two-way traffic, an ant appeared from the base of the heap pulling a dead ant by the head, while another gave an occasional shove at the other end. They dragged the corpse well away from their entrances and left it almost covered with bits of debris, for this was a sort of burial ceremony.

## LIVING ON HONEYDEW

Every gardener has been aware of the greenfly pest this summer, infesting all kinds of plants. Knowing that the so-called honeydew they excrete is a favourite food of many ants, he might like to hear how much the ants collect. One estimate is that a large wood-ant colony will get, during the summer, the equivalent in honeydew of 20 pounds of dried sugar. The farmer, however, would be mistaken to rejoice at this news, for though the colony may largely depend on the store of honeydew during the poor months, no harm is done to the greenfly.

## USEFUL SCAVENGERS

Still, it is only fair to note that many ants destroy great numbers of caterpillars for food. An estimate by an entomologist to illustrate how useful ants may be as scavengers shows that a wood-ant colony in one season may take back to the nest 100,000 caterpillars and other insects. Remember that, in addition to the many colonies of wood-ants, there are other much commoner kinds of ants.

First is the black ant, the small one familiar in the garden, which is perhaps the most common of the 33 species in Britain. Another common one is the yellow meadow ant, whose mounds are easily seen and not difficult to distinguish from the molehills in the meadows.

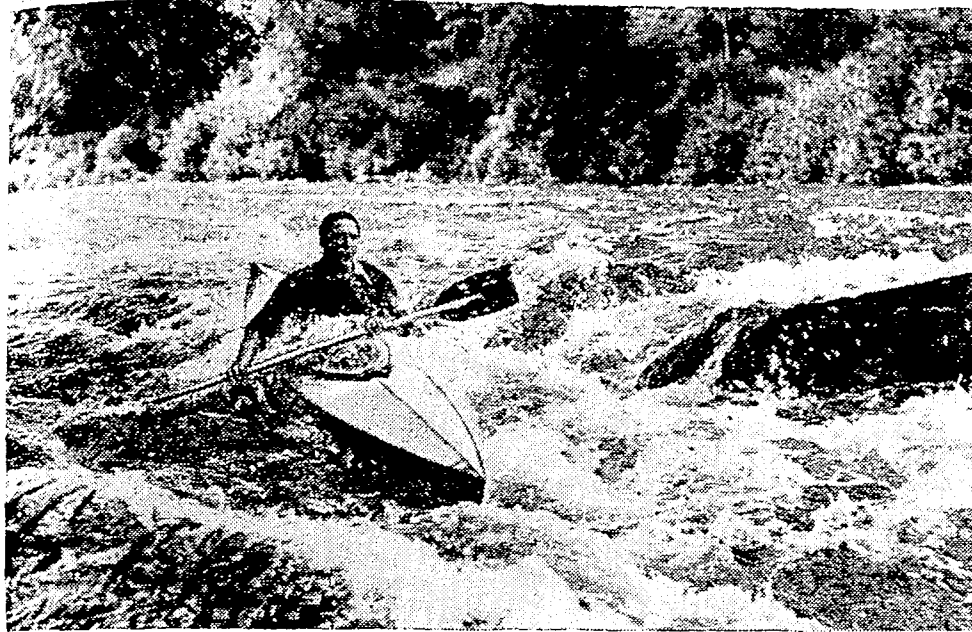
## STORING GREENFLY EGGS

Meadow ants depend on honeydew more than any other food, and both these and the small black ants will carry the living greenfly into the nest and keep them alive like cattle, to be milked for honeydew as required. Even worse from the point of view of farmers and gardeners, the ants take care of the eggs in winter and when spring comes deposit these on the right sort of plants, to make sure of another generation of greenfly.

From the ants' point of view, they are only doing what the farmer does with his cattle—making sure of a supply of nourishment for next year.

C. D. D





### Shooting the rapids

Jack McLean, the British Canoe Champion, needed all his skill to negotiate this turbulent part of the River Tay at Grantully, in Perthshire.

### NEW FILMS

## Dirk Bogarde strikes oil

WHEN a man believes that right is on his side there are no difficulties he cannot overcome with persistence and courage. That is the theme of an exciting new adventure film called *Campbell's Kingdom*.



Dirk Bogarde as Bruce Campbell. In the background is Stanley Baker, who plays Owen Morgan.

Kingdom, after the valley in the Canadian Rockies where the action takes place.

Dirk Bogarde, playing the part of Bruce Campbell, believes that he only has six months to live, and arrives in the little township of Come Lucky to take up his inheritance, Campbell's Kingdom, left to him by his grandfather, who believed that the valley contained oil.

The townsfolk had invested their savings in this oil project and when Old Campbell's partner absconded with their money the old man was disgraced and put into prison. Then an unscrupulous millionaire and his henchmen arrived to flood the valley as part of the building of a dam for a vast new hydro-electric plant.

When Dirk appears he meets hostility from almost every person in Come Lucky. But he is so sure that his grandfather was

honest and has been tricked by the rascally dam contractor, Owen Morgan (played by Stanley Baker) that he determines to make a final attempt to drill for oil. But how? The villains bar the way to Campbell's Kingdom.

The ingenious way in which Dirk Bogarde manages to trick Stanley Baker and get the oil-rigging gear into the valley is tremendously exciting. There is also a most thrilling climax, when the dam cracks and Dirk nearly loses his life in warning the workmen.

The mountain scenery, in colour, is wonderful, and there are many moments of excitement. This is a straightforward adventure story, and we do get a feeling of achievement from a man who stuck bravely to his guns and won through against great odds.

ANOTHER new film called *The Delicate Delinquent* tells of a New York policeman who believes that among the young thugs always in trouble around his beat there must be one who can be saved and given a fresh chance. Grudgingly his superior agrees to let him make the experiment.

He chooses a young fellow who is lonely, nervous, and a misfit. In some ways he is very observant and in others very stupid. Gradually the policeman wins the boy's confidence and helps him to achieve his ambition, which is to become a policeman.

There are many problems to overcome before this happens, but again it points to the fact that nothing is impossible if you really believe in what you are doing. Jerry Lewis plays the young man who is helped to self-respect. There are some very funny scenes provided by this popular comedian and, for the first time, he also shows touches of pathos.

### IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK—SEPTEMBER 28, 1846

## NEW PLANET FOUND BY CAMBRIDGE MAN

CAMBRIDGE—A 27-year-old Cambridge University mathematician, working with a French astronomer, has discovered a new planet. It is the farthest known planet from the sun, separated from it by a distance of nearly 2,796,700,000 miles. It has been given the name Neptune.

The two men who share the honour of finding the planet are John Couch Adams and Urbain Jean Joseph Leverrier.

### SCIENCE DETECTIVE

Neptune's discovery is the result of scientific detective work. For years astronomers have been investigating the mystery of the planet Uranus, found by Sir William Herschel 65 years ago. For a long time the orbit of Uranus worried astronomers. As each year passed they saw their observations of it increasing in errors, and at last astronomers throughout the world decided to co-operate in a full investigation of these irregularities.

Among them was John Adams who, in 1842, when he was studying for his degree at Cambridge, determined that he would find out if the mystery of Uranus was caused by an unknown and more distant planet.

### PLODDING ON

Intense interest was aroused. The following year the Royal Society of Göttingen, Germany, offered a prize of 50 ducats for a reliable explanation of the whole theory of the motions of Uranus. This offer was to close in September, 1846.

During the next two years Adams plodded on with his calculations and theories. He was given the chance to test his results by using the Cambridge Observatory.

The area where he suspected the object to be was scrutinised on July 29, 1846. It was actually seen on August 4, but it passed without recognition. Then Leverrier's discovery was announced in Paris. Eagerly the young British astronomer compared the Frenchman's results and found that he had seen the planet a month earlier, but had thought it was a star.

### SEEKING THE PROOF

Leverrier's investigation was more thorough than Adams's. He showed that the observations of Uranus could not be accounted for by the attraction of known bodies. There was no other explanation, he maintained, than that of a planet beyond Uranus. Considering the distances to be double that of Uranus he then set out to prove it. His endurance was tremendous. Step by step, with determined and patient accuracy, he gradually reached a point in his task where his mysterious object lay in space.

On September 18 Leverrier wrote to his friend Dr. John G. Galle, chief assistant at Berlin Observatory, suggesting that he should search for the suspected planet, using Leverrier's results.

The 35-year-old French astronomer hoped that the planet might be detected by its disc shape.

No time was lost. The search began that evening—on September 23. Slowly Galle peered at the heavens, but he was unable to detect any planet by its disc. It seemed as if Leverrier's calculations were wrong. But then a young student named d'Arrest, who lived at the observatory, snapped Galle into action again. Why not, he suggested, use one of the new star charts that were then being set up at the observatory. With a piece of luck the region of the supposed planet might be covered by one of the charts.

### CONSTANT WATCH

Full of anticipation, Galle eagerly pulled out the charts from a nearby drawer and returned to his telescope again. By comparing the stars on the chart, one by one, to those shining in the heavens, he found that an eighth magnitude object, now visible, was not shown on the chart. This object was constantly watched until after midnight, but no certain motion was detected. The following evening the object was again brought into focus. This time it was seen to have moved from its previous position. Thus the existence of a new planet was established.

Leverrier has pinned down the unknown planet almost to the exact spot where it actually lay. Adams, too, had come remarkably near with pure calculation.

Neptune gets so little light from the Sun and is so far from Earth that it cannot be seen by the naked eye, but it can easily be detected by a spyglass. At times the planet can be seen as a greenish disc. So far no markings have yet been noticed. The atmosphere is thought to contain hydrogen. The temperature at the surface is low, almost -337 degrees Fahrenheit.

### Through the hoop



Leaps like this have won many cups for Rusty and his master, Mr. Byrne of Reading, in "Dog Obedience" competitions.

The dam is about to break—a scene from *Campbell's Kingdom*

# Where the Jungle Books were written

## KIPLING'S OLD HOME IN THE U.S.

The house in Vermont, U.S.A., where Rudyard Kipling wrote the Jungle Books, has now been opened to the public. A CN correspondent in America here describes what he saw during a recent visit to the house.

Just outside the little town of Brattleboro in Vermont, U.S.A., a turning leads off the main highway, and the signpost says "Kipling Road." It winds upwards into the hills and among the trees, and must be much the same as when Kipling first saw it in 1893 when he came here with his young wife and decided to build a home. He had met her in London while collaborating with her brother, Henry Wolcott Balestier, in a thriller they called The Naulakha. And when the young

author lost nearly all his small savings in the failure of a Japanese bank, the newly-weds decided to go to the bride's home in Vermont where her family owned some property.

Kipling's new house was built of Vermont wood and there it stands today with all its windows facing the beautiful Connecticut River valley. He named the place "Naulakha" and it has the style of a house in British India. There is the typical wide verandah and on it Kipling wrote the Jungle Books and Captains Courageous.

Behind the house are the deep woods of Vermont with deer and an occasional bear. Here Kipling wandered while the jungle stories were being written. Here, for three summers and winters until 1896, Kipling wrote, and here his two daughters were born. One of them was little Josephine, for whom the Just So Stories were written. His writing desk and some of his furniture are still in the house.

## TELL-TALE CAMERA

One of the big American wine producers is using a novel method of looking after its vineyards. Instead of inspection of the vines one by one on the ground, photographs are taken from the air, and they pick out sick vines over a considerable area with great accuracy. In many cases, breakdown of the soil occurs because of too much water. The foliage loses its depth of colour so that the vines can barely be seen in the photographs, and appear as colourless gaps in the vineyards. The camera is thus proving of help in yet another important industry.

## Skating twins



Gunilla and Camilla Victor are eager visitors to Richmond Ice Rink. Ten-year-old twins, they are on a month's visit to this country with their parents from Sweden, where they intend to start competition skating next year.

## Sporting Flashbacks



BEFORE THE WAR, WHEN GRIMSBY TOWN WERE IN THE FIRST DIVISION, THEIR CAPTAIN WAS...

**JOHN BESTALL**  
—INTERNATIONAL FORWARD—  
...SO TALENTED, SO POPULAR, THAT BESTALL ROAD, GRIMSBY, WAS NAMED AFTER HIM.



SHINNEY WAS A FORM OF HOCKEY PLAYED 100 YEARS AGO ON THE EDGE OF SHERWOOD FOREST ...

THE SHINNEY STICK COMPARED HERE WITH A MODERN HOCKEY STICK BELONGED TO MR. W.R. LYMBERY, OF THE FOREST CLUB. ... BUT HE AND HIS FRIENDS GAVE UP THE GAME WITH THE RISE OF SOCCER IN THE DISTRICT AND IN 1865 FORMED NOTTINGHAM FOREST F.C.

OLD CAZTHUSIANS WERE THE ONLY CLUB TO WIN BOTH THE F.A. CUP (1881) AND THE AMATEUR CUP (1894 AND 1897)...

MAJOR E.G. WYNWARD, WHO WAS IN THE 1881 TEAM, WAS ALSO A NOTABLE HAMPSHIRE AND ARMY CRICKETER AND CAPTAINED M.C.C. IN NEW ZEALAND 25 YEARS AFTER GAINING HIS F.A. CUP MEDAL.

SHINNEY 1857

HOCKEY 1957

## WARBLER OF SWEET SONG

Warblers are among our sweetest singers, but there is one which has earned the special name of the melodious warbler. It nests in southern Europe and is among the rare visitors to Britain. But during the present autumn at least two of these uncommon visitors turned up at the observatories where birds-of-passage are caught and ringed for identity purposes and set free again.

They were ringed at Cley, on the Norfolk coast, where the visitor was only the second of its kind known for that county, and at Bardsey Island, off the Welsh coast.

We do not hear the babbling song of the warbler during autumn, and the bird is distinguished at this time chiefly by accurate measurements of its wings and details of its plumage. Otherwise it is very difficult to distinguish from other warblers.

Among uncommon birds-of-passage at Cley this autumn were the red-necked phalarope, a water-bird nesting in the far north, the hobby, a small summer falcon, the wood-sandpiper, the red-backed shrike, marsh-harrier, and lesser white-throat.

E. H.

## Stamp News

A NEW Dutch stamp supports the idea of a united Europe. Its striking design includes a six-pointed star in the form of a paddle-wheel representing the activity of the nations.

THIS is the stamp Canada will issue next month to mark the visit of the Queen and Prince Philip. The design was made from pictures taken by a famous Canadian photographer, Karsh of Ottawa.



IN an attempt to find a cure for a local disease, a Peruvian medical student named Daniel Alcides carried out experiments on his own body. Now, 100 years after his birth, four stamps are being issued in his memory.

A BALLET stamp, believed to be the world's first, is to be issued by Denmark in the New Year. It will depict ballerina Margrethe Schanne, of the Royal Danish Ballet, which has been having a wonderful season.

## TO SCHOOL THROUGH STORMY SEAS

The thirteen boys and girls from Scarborough who, as already reported in the CN, spent part of their holidays on a natural history expedition to the Scottish island of Eigg, had an exciting end to their adventure.

When the day came to leave, the seas were so rough that the islanders could not ferry the party back to the mainland. But the young visitors were due back in Scarborough for the start of the autumn term. So they chartered a motor-launch manned by two lifeboatmen for the seven-mile crossing to Mallaig. It took them three stormy hours—but they were in good time for school.

These members of the Junior Naturalists' Association, in charge of the curator of the Natural History Museum at Scarborough, spent their time studying the animal and plant life on the 24 square miles of Eigg and collected plants, insects, and fossils. They saw 19 grey seals and watched from a distance a golden eagle's nest and saw a young eagle and its parents.

Also a shepherd told them tales of folk-lore and played traditional airs for them on his fiddle.

## THE WHITE COMPANY—new picture-version of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's stirring yarn (3)



The Soeman of Minstead had gone to fetch his hounds to set on his brother, Alleyn. The girl persuaded her rescuer to run through a stream, which threw the hounds off the scent. Later she told Alleyn that his brother was revengeful because she had refused his offer of marriage. This morning she had been hawking when her pony threw her and bolted. Alone, she had had the ill luck to meet the Soeman.



When the girl's page returned with her pony she rode off, thanking Alleyn for his help but not revealing her name. After his brother's hostile reception it was impossible for Alleyn to return to his ancestral home, and he made for Christchurch. Later he overtook his two friends, Hordle John, and Sam Aylward the old soldier he had met at the inn. They were delighted to hear he wanted to join them.



At Christchurch they met the famous knight, Sir Nigel Loring, a short, middle-aged man with a soft voice and gentle ways. Sam gave him the letter asking him to return to France to command the White Company. Sir Nigel laughed quietly. "They will not leave the old dog in his kennel when the game is afoot," he said. Alleyn and John were introduced as recruits and invited into Twynham Castle.



They joined the other soldiers, but later a page came to say that Sir Nigel wanted to see Alleyn. He followed the boy to the great chamber, which was empty. There was a ripple of laughter, and from behind a screen stepped the girl he had saved from his brother—she was Sir Nigel's daughter! She had entered the room before her father to beg Alleyn to say nothing of their meeting on the Soeman's land.

What does Sir Nigel want with Alleyn—brother of the hated Soeman of Minstead? See next week's instalment



# NO CLUES FOR THE CONWAYS

by Geoffrey Morgan

Jerry Conway and his Canadian cousin, Jane, are crewing for their friend, Skipper Amos, owner of the sailing barge Mirelda. Off the Norfolk coast they find the Windfall, a derelict yacht, and her papers reveal that she is owned by Brett Hallam, a young experienced yachtsman. Amos suspects of smuggling. There is no clue to show why the yacht is deserted and Amos thinks that Hallam must have been washed overboard in the storm of the night before, but Jerry does not believe he is drowned.

## 3. Salvage Operation

SKIPPER AMOS folded the ship's papers Jerry had found in the yacht's cabin, and put them carefully into the pocket of his canvas smock.

"Well, whatever you believe, Jerry," he said gravely, "it has no bearing on the immediate problem." His dark eyes ranged over the yacht moving gently along with the Mirelda. "We've got to get Windfall into harbour somewhere and make our report."

Jane looked across from her position at the wheel.

"Sure. Don't we claim salvage or something, skipper?" she asked.

Having to take the helm of the sailing barge while her cousin had had all the thrill of exploring the derelict boat, she thought it was time she made her presence felt. Like Jerry, she found it hard to believe that a sea-

man of Brett Hallam's experience would have been washed overboard, and her interests were divided between the mystery his disappearance created and the possibility of sharing in a salvage claim for the man's yacht.

"What d'you figure on doing, Amos?" she asked, with a glance up at the mast truck where the Mirelda's bob floated listlessly. "Not enough wind for the Mirelda to tow the boat."

"No," Amos agreed. "We'll have to take her in under her own steam."

"Well, I could handle her easily enough, skipper," Jerry said.

"H'm," Amos grunted at length. "I think I can rely on you to keep station with us." A faint smile hovered on his lips. "You're not exactly a novice with a marine engine. But to keep company with the Mirelda in this breeze you'll probably have to run at quarter throttle."

"That should be simple enough," Jerry grinned. "But where're we heading—back to King's Lynn?"

"No. No point in going back on our tracks. We've got a schedule to work to." He glanced towards the faint coastline. "Yarmouth won't be much off our course. Better make for there."

Late that afternoon they were off the harbour entrance, and Amos decided to anchor the Mirelda outside. In the light air it did not take him long to stow the sails and let go the hook, and he and Jane transferred to the Windfall, entering the harbour under power.

They tied up at the quay, and while Amos went off to report to the Receiver of Wrecks, the Conways wandered round the wharves watching the activity on a variety of small ships loading and unloading cargo. The herring season had not yet begun, so they saw

laughed. "Take it easy, Jane. I've only just reported it. There are a few preliminaries to go through first, you know. The Receiver of Wrecks has got to try to trace Hallam."

"What happens in the meantime?" Jerry wanted to know.

"We carry on to Thamford. I've made a full report and handed over Windfall's papers. The matter is now out of our hands. The Receiver has taken over the boat and will be making all inquiries."

"Did you tell him you knew Hallam?" Jerry inquired.

"Yes. I told him what I could. It's quite a time since I last saw him, remember. However," Amos shrugged his broad shoulders, "we've done all we can. The Receiver will be getting in touch with me as soon as he sorts everything out."

## The stranger

"Where did you say we'd be—Thamford?" Jane queried.

"No. We shouldn't be there more than a couple of days loading. I think it more likely we'll be in Penfole Creek by the time we hear from him, so I suggested he write care of the post office at Dilwyth village."

Jerry frowned for a moment. "Dilwyth? Oh, yes, that's the nearest spot to Penfole Creek."

Jane edged closer to Amos.

"Don't look now," she said slyly, "but someone's coming across. Could be one of those newspapermen."

Amos did not turn his head but saw the young man out of the corner of one eye.

"Come on," he urged quietly. "We must get under way. I've answered all the questions I'm going to today."

They walked quickly across a cobbled yard, behind a long warehouse and a low block of offices, and came out on to a quay farther down. Jane kept glancing back but there was no sign of the man.

"Whoever he was," she observed, "he hasn't bothered to follow."

## Thamford

"How are we going to get out to the Mirelda?" Jerry asked when Amos stopped and looked expectantly along the quay.

"Motor-boat. I fixed for someone to take us out when I was in the Receiver's office—ah, that looks like it," he added, indicating an open motor-boat purring towards them. At that moment the uniformed figure in the boat waved and steered in alongside.

"Come on," said Amos. "I've spent more time here than I bargained for. If we're going to get to Thamford close on schedule, it looks like a night passage."

The village of Thamford is about three miles up the River

Colne. There is a small quay and jetty which really belong to the sand and cement works fringing the river; and the few cottages, the general store-cum-post office, and the inn, are tucked away among the trees 300 yards from the water's edge.

The grey shadows of dawn began to dissolve as the Mirelda ghosted up-river and nosed in towards the jetty. By the time the sun was up Amos and his crew had the shallow craft snugly moored at the jetty head.

The night passage had been uneventful, but was none the less tiring for that, and Jane had been the only one with a watch below. It was natural, therefore, that she should be the first on the scene a little later that morning.

Immediately the meal was over Amos went ashore to the works' office, and when Jane had cleared away, swept and dusted the saloon, she went into the village to shop. Jerry remained on board to stow everything in its place on deck and strip the hatch-covers.

It was soon after mid-morning when he heard the car. It came along the narrow road from the village and pulled up on the quay. Jerry bent to his task on deck again, thinking that the new arrival was going to the works, but when he heard footsteps on the jetty he straightened up. A youngish man of muscular build was approaching. He wore a loose raincoat and a cheery smile.

"Good morning," he said pleasantly. "Is this the sailing barge Mirelda?" His gaze travelled along the deck and eventually returned to Jerry's face.

"That's right," Jerry said.

The man gave a nod of satisfaction.

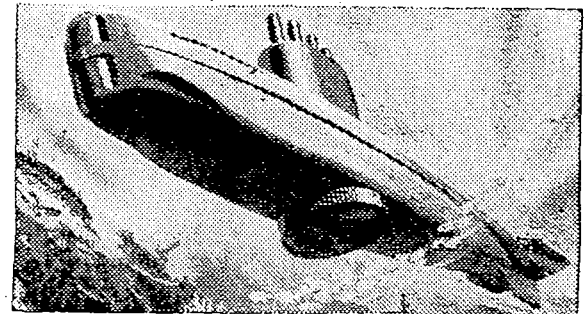
"Is the skipper about?"

"Not just at the moment," Jerry looked at him inquiringly. "Can I help?"

"Well—" the stranger hesitated. "Maybe you can. I'm making some inquiries about the Windfall."

To be continued

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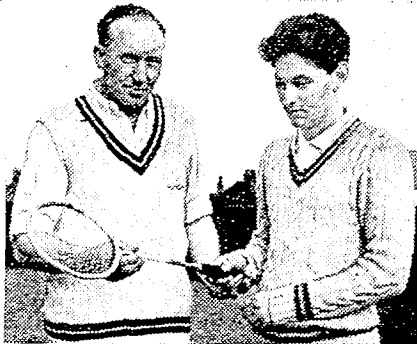
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**GEORGE RAYNOR**, former professional footballer, spent several years on the Continent and won high praise for his coaching. He returned to join Coventry City two seasons ago, but has now left this country once more, having been appointed chief coach and organiser in Sweden. He will select and train the players to represent Sweden in next summer's World Cup matches. Sweden will be host country for the later stages of this competition.

## New sport for Stuart Surridge

Stuart Surridge, famous as the captain of Surrey Cricket Club, has now taken up badminton. Here he discusses a point with Gino Giniglio, the Middlesex player.



**DALYMOUNT PARK**, Dublin, may house a record crowd this Wednesday evening when Shamrock Rovers meet Manchester United in the opening round of the 1957-58 European Cup. Shamrock Rovers are the first club from Eire to compete in the European Cup.

# SPORTS SHORTS

**SOME** of the world's greatest tennis stars will be competing in the indoor professional championships at the Empire Pool, Wembley, from Wednesday until Saturday. Among them will be the world's leading player Pancho Gonzales, who won the singles title at Wembley last season; Australian Frank Sedgman, who was last year's beaten finalist; his former Australian colleague, Lew Hoad, this year's Wimbledon champion, and Jack Kramer, who manages this famous professional touring team.

**OPEN** tennis championships, with professionals and amateurs competing on the same terms, must wait a little longer it seems. A special committee of the American L.T.A. met recently to examine the possibility of open events, but although they recommended such meetings, the full committee rejected the scheme.

**WHEN** Ken Rosewall and Lew Hoad became professionals it seemed that the Davis Cup might leave Australia after many years. But as so often in the past, new players have immediately come right into world-class. Mal Anderson, 22-year-old Queensland cattle farmer, is the latest. Mal won the U.S. Championships the other day, the first non-seeded player ever to win the title in the championship's history of 76 years.

**ERIC MARSH**, the 17-year-old cricket captain of St. Dunstan's College, Catford, south-east London, is on the threshold of a very promising career in first-class cricket. Towards the end of the season, he played six matches in a week for Blackheath Schools, and in scoring 375 runs, including two centuries, had a batting average of 187 runs.

## In front of the crowd

Soccer internationals begin again this week, so a few days ago a CN sports correspondent asked Portsmouth and England half-back Jimmy Dickinson what he felt like when representing his country in front of perhaps 100,000 spectators.

"I think the feeling varies a lot according to the number of big games like that in which you've played," he answered.

"In my first international, I well remember, I was very nervous both before and at the start of the match. That, of course, is the same with most players. You can't help feeling that if you have a poor game you may never be picked again.

"Once I gained my confidence, though, with the help of the more experienced players in the side, it became just another game.

"I soon found I just didn't have time to think about anything else, even to the point of forgetting all about what was by far the largest crowd I had ever then played in front of.

"Now I've played in more than forty internationals and, while I'll admit I'm still just a bit nervous before the game, once the whistle blows I forget everything else except helping England to win."

**SPECTATORS** at the England v France soccer international at Wembley in November are likely to see an unusual method of refereeing. Man in charge of the match will be the Russian Nikolai Latychev, who likes to control the game from one side of the field with his two linesmen on the other side of the field, each covering one half of the line.

**TWO** soccer internationals will be held on Wednesday. At Ninian Park, Cardiff, Wales meet East Germany, in the second leg of their World Cup clash. The Germans won the first match, 2-1, at Leipzig, last May. Thousands of Welsh fans had hoped to see the brilliant John Charles in the side but John, who is playing in Italian League soccer, has been refused permission to play.

At Stamford Bridge, home of the Chelsea club, the English and Bulgarian Under-23 teams will be in opposition. These teams met in Sofia in May, and the Bulgarians won by 2 goals to 1.

## Looking to Italy

**SEVERAL** of Britain's leading soccer players have joined Italian clubs in the past two years. Now, however, only players of Italian descent may be signed. One young man who has this qualification is 16-year-old Rino Bacuzzi, son of the Fulham trainer and former full-back, Joe Bacuzzi. Rino, whose grandparents were born in Milan, is now playing for Eastbourne, but his ambition is to play for an Italian club.



## England's captain

On Friday, England's women Test cricketers leave for a tour of Australia and New Zealand. Captain of the team is Mary Duggan.

**A** FLOODLIT athletics meeting that should attract a very big crowd this Wednesday evening is the return match between England and Poland, at the White City. The first athletics clash between these two countries took place less than three weeks ago, when the Poles won the men's match by a mere 10 points, and England triumphed in the women's match.



## Keeping fit

Angela Waterman, 18, an ice hockey player who lives at Worthing, Sussex, exercises every day to keep 100 per cent fit.

**WHILE** this year's A.S.A. championships were beginning at Blackpool a decision about next years meeting was reached. Owing to a clash of dates it seemed that Britain's team would be unable to compete in the European Championships, but now it has been decided to send a team and alter the Blackpool dates.

**MEANWHILE**, in this year's championships several of our young stars have shown that they are more than likely to win European titles. Diana Wilkinson, for example, the 13-year-old Stockport swimmer, broke no fewer than 19 senior and junior records during the meeting; and a new "discovery," 13-year-old Judy Samuels, of Weybridge, was also inside the previous 110 yards freestyle record during a relay race. Former holder of the record, incidentally, was Ferne Ewart, who was born in Ceylon, the daughter of a tea planter. And Judy is also the daughter of a tea-planter and was born in Ceylon.

## Early starters

**THE** annual 'London-to-Brighton' race will be held on Saturday, when the finest long-distance and marathon runners will set out from below Big Ben at seven a.m. on the 53-mile run. Among the competitors will be three young members of the Huli Harriers—Colin Wardby, Dave McDonald, and Mike Kirkwood, who train together, and race together. During the past three years they claim to have run more than 16,000 miles together.

Another competitor will be Gerald Walsh, who has come all the way from South Africa to take part.

**THE** outstanding performance of this year's cricket season has been judged to be that of Colin Cowdrey and Peter May in making a stand of 411 in the second Test against the West Indies. Other winners of a 100 guinea award and silver trophy replica are: Roy Marshall (Hampshire) for the fastest century; David Halfyard (Kent) for his nine wickets for 39 runs against Glamorgan; Michael Stewart (Surrey) for holding 75 catches; and John Murray, the Middlesex wicket-keeper who dismissed 94 batsmen.

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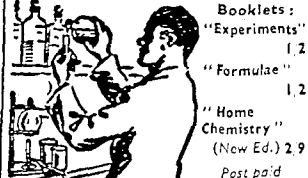
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# BANANA DAY IN JAMAICA

Bearing in mind the recent popularity of the *Banana Boat Song*, a friend of CN who lived for many years in Jamaica sends us this account of the most exciting day in the week there.

For five days of the week, the little towns and villages and the seaports of Jamaica are sleepy places. The people go quietly about their business; in the hill villages the men go off to work on their small plots of land, growing yam, cassava (from which starch is made), vegetables, and bananas. They have as many as ten or twenty banana trees; or perhaps they work on one of the big estates where banana trees grow in thousands.

One day a week, Saturday, is market day. Then the streets are thronged with people from miles around; but things are still a bit sleepy.

## THE DAY ARRIVES

On the seventh day, however, usually a Monday or Tuesday, the whole scene changes. Lorries career in and out of the villages, loaded perilously, swaying with the enormous weight they carry. At every small station on the railway line men rush up and down; donkeys, mules, carts, anything that can carry a load, are brought into service, and they come streaming into the station accompanied by much yelling and snatches of song.

Banana day!

Down the narrow paths of the mountains swing men and women, carrying on their heads the heavy stems of fruit. They stop when they come to the "checker," who can tell at a glance the amount they should be paid. On a high seat with a desk in front of it and looking something like an umpire at a tennis match, he sits, marking down the size of the stem and the name of the owner.

Now, a "bunch" of bananas is a stem of fruit having several "hands." Each "hand" has ten or twelve fingers. The growers get paid by the stem. "Six hand, seven hand, eight hand, bunch!" you hear the checkers calling out, for they are very skilled at telling from the position of the hands, the size of the stem.

The fruit is then carefully loaded on lorries or train wagons, and off it goes to the nearest port. From early morning the lorries have been streaming into the town and the fruit is unloaded and stacked very gently, or it will be bruised, in great piles in the sheds along the wharves. As soon as the ship docks the loading begins, for every moment lost costs the shipping companies money.

## WORKING AGAINST TIME

It is also necessary to get the fruit into the refrigeration chambers of the holds on the ship as soon as possible after cutting, as in the extreme warmth of the tropics a matter of 24 hours can make a difference between the way the fruit will travel. Once inside these holds, all progress in ripening ceases until the fruit is unloaded in England, when at the other extreme—it is put into warm chambers to ripen.

So all night the loading of the ship continues. Streams of men and women carrying a stem, sometimes two stems of fruit on their heads, run past another checker, this time one who is not selecting the fruit but just keeping a tally, so he is known as "Mr. Tally-man."

Thousands of stems of fruit are loaded into one ship, so on it goes into the small hours.

These perspiring carriers all work hard for their money, and when banana day is over there is often no other way to earn anything until the next ship comes in.



Evening parade

This peaceful evening scene was photographed in Lyme Park, a few miles from Manchester

## NEWS FROM THE ZOO

# TAME SPIDER AT REGENT'S PARK

Settling down in a glass container in the insect house laboratory at the London Zoo is one of the most unusual gifts the menagerie has received for some time. This new arrival is Amanda, a tame bird-eating spider.

"Amanda has been given to us by Mr. John Vinden, a Birmingham naturalist," Overseer George Ashby told me. "Mr. Vinden obtained the spider originally from a local fruit warehouse, where it had been found among bananas imported from the West Indies. That was two years ago. Since then, Mr. Vinden had been keeping the spider as a 'pet.' Recently, however, he had some difficulty in persuading Amanda to feed, so decided to pass her on to us."

"Amanda has a leg-span of nearly five inches, enough to cover a small tea saucer. Although it is possible to touch her without getting bitten, we are not taking any risks, for her bite still remains poisonous. So visitors will have to view Amanda through thick glass when she goes on exhibition. Incidentally, we have several male 'bird-eaters,' and it may be possible to pair her later."

## EGGS OF A MANTIS

Near Amanda in the laboratory is another interesting gift, a praying mantis egg-mass sent up by Mr. Coleridge, of Bishop's Teignton, Devon. "A Fellow of the Zoological Society, Mr. Coleridge obtained this egg-mass in the south of France," Mr. Ashby said. "It is the product of a species known as the Greater Mantis, a kind which occurs quite commonly in southern Europe, but one that we have not had here for some years. We are doing our best to hatch the eggs in the 'warm room,' where the temperature keeps constant at about 70 degrees Fahrenheit."

"Unfortunately, part of the egg-mass was damaged in transit. But the greater portion of it is in good condition, and the eggs should hatch shortly. We expect several dozen babies to emerge and we have a good supply of fruit-flies on hand, on which to feed them. This is essential, as baby mantids are ravenous creatures and normally feed pretty well 'all round the clock.'"

## LITTLE PRICKLES

A humble but not uninteresting baby animal now on exhibition at the Small Mammal House is Little Prickles, the first hedgehog to be born in the Gardens. "Mrs. Prickles," the mother, was picked up on waste ground near the Zoo by one of the menagerie's gardeners. Next morning, Mrs. Prickles "presented" the menagerie with a baby!

Up to now, few visitors have seen either the mother or her baby, both staying in their sleeping quarters. But now the pair are coming out regularly, particularly in the late evenings. "Little Prickles is very trusting and for a short period can be handled quite comfortably, as his spines are not yet really hard and sharp. But they will become so very soon," said an official.

Mrs. Prickles and her infant are expected to remain on show until November, when both animals will be invited to go into hibernation.

## FED BY ALL

A rather more developed youngster can now be seen in the Great Aviary. He is a young gallinule, or tropical reed-hen, hatched in the enclosure a few weeks ago.

"This chick is a hybrid," Mr. John Yealland, curator of birds, told me. "Its father is an African green-backed gallinule; its mother belongs to the grey-headed variety,

an Indian species. But the odd thing about this youngster is that no one can now determine which are its parents. There are several other gallinules in the aviary, and all appear to have adopted the chick, which is fed in turn by all the adult birds! With the attention of so many aunts and uncles, we have every hope of its being safely reared."

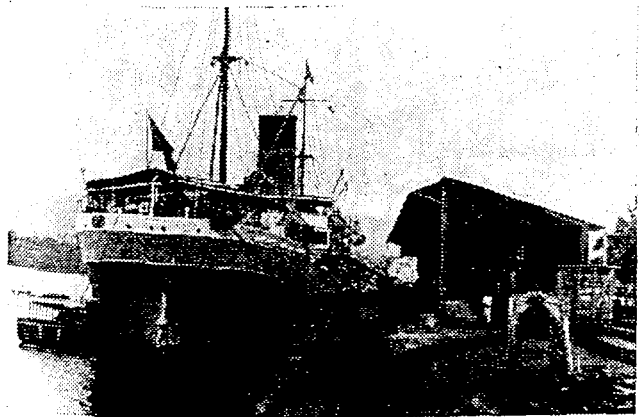
Two young Snowy owls, an Arctic species, are receiving some unusual avian "visitors." They are wild tawny owls, which fly in to see them each evening from the neighbouring park. "The Snowy owls were hatched in June," Head-keeper E. Scrivener told me. "A few weeks ago we decided to move them over to the birds-of-prey aviaries, where we happened to have a large flight cage available for them."

"The two owlets, both females, soon settled down in their new quarters among the eagles and vultures. And an impressive sight they make as they sit together up on a lofty perch, gazing down at the crowds. Both are now nearly full-size, with a very handsome speckled plumage."

## CAGE-TOP MEETING

"The other evening we heard a hullabaloo from their cage and we were astonished to see two young tawny owls squatting on top of the cage. All four were calling loudly to each other."

"We cannot, of course, let the Snowy owls out of their cage—they are valuable birds, rarely bred in captivity. Nor can we allow the Tawny owls into their cage, even supposing we could get them there, which is doubtful. For the present, therefore, the quartet will have to continue their evening 'get togethers' on the present lines, with the cage wires separating the pairs." CRAVEN HILL



The banana boat ready for loading

## YOUNG ARTISTS, PLEASE NOTE

The British Atlantic Committee, which exists to promote understanding of NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, is running a poster-design competition for young artists.

The theme of the poster is, Nato our Shield, and there are four age groups: under 13; 13 to 16; 16 to 19; and over 19. The first prize in

each group is a silver medallion and £5, and there is to be a special award of a free visit to NATO Headquarters in Paris.

Posters must be sent in by December 31, 1957. Application forms with details can be obtained from The Director, The British Atlantic Committee, 36 Craven Street, London, W.C.2.



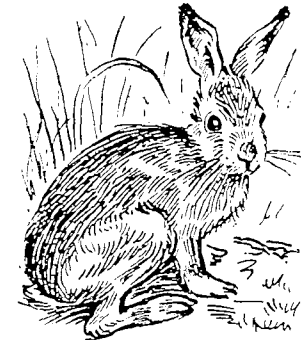
## NO PICNIC FOR TEDDY

I took my Teddy for a ride.  
We went aboard a train,  
But though he liked it all at first,  
I won't do it again.  
For just as I was getting off,  
I let dear Teddy fall  
Right down upon the railway line.  
You should have heard me call!  
A porter got him up again,  
But, oh, he looked so sad.  
He'd lost his little beady eye—  
The only one he had.

## SPOT THE . . .

BROWN HARE as he races over the ground, or freezes in his form, the place in which he rests. The hare is a solitary creature and unlike the rabbit does not burrow beneath the earth. His form may be in bushes or clumps of grass.

Although resembling a rabbit in appearance, the hare's hind legs



are much longer than those of a rabbit. Other distinctions are colouring, hares being inclined to a shade of sandy-red, also their huge ears have black markings. When pursued, the hare employs various ruses to shake off the enemy. One is to pass through swampy ground; another is to give a mighty leap at right angles—in each case to break the scent.

The hare will sometimes swim rivers to find fresh pastures.

## MISSING ANAGRAMS

All the missing words in the poem below consist of the same six letters rearranged. Can you see what they are?

The . . . . . of the hostel said  
"You'd best be . . . . . by me—

Don't . . . . . far from . . . . .  
(Lanes)

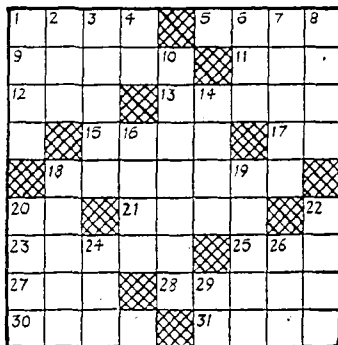
Or sorry you will be,"  
And so the boy who sought his help

(Yes, . . . . . was his name)  
Said, "Thank you, sir, for your advice—  
I'm glad to you I came."

## Crossword puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Identical. 5 Snakes. 9 Tuft of feathers. 11 Friend. 12 Colour. 13 Trap. 15 Facts. 17 Editor. 18 Tomb of Ancient Egypt. 20 District Attorney. 21 Detail. 23 To wear away. 25 Hail! 27 Epoch. 28 Do you like it in your tea? 30 A funeral pile. 31 Favourites.

READING DOWN. 1 Lively. 2 Beverage. 3 Dirty. 4 Printers' measure. 6 Health resort. 7 Cut or shaved. 8 Sleigh. 10 Areas containing a number of houses. 14 Title. 16 Parched. 18 Ward off. 19 Idol. 20 Opposite of shallow. 22 Belonging to her. 24 Row with it. 26 A large vessel or tub. 29 On high.



Answer next week.

## MOCKERY

"WHAT on earth is this?" demanded the diner.

"Mock turtle soup, sir," replied the waiter.

"Well, tell the chef he's carried the mockery too far."

## BUSY SQUIRRELS

CRIED two thrifty young squirrels in grey:

"We are busy in autumn all day,  
Storing nuts, grain, and seeds,  
Which will meet all our needs,  
When food's scarce on a cold winter's day."

## RICH REPLY

TEACHER: "Now, Robinson, if you had ten pounds and multiplied it by six what would you get?"

Robinson: "A television set, sir."

## BEDTIME TALE

## BILLY SWEEPS

"No television today, I'm afraid," said Mummy as Paul and Jean called at Billy's house to watch the children's programmes at 5 o'clock. "The sweep is due any moment and I have covered all the furniture with dust sheets to stop the soot getting everywhere."

A short while later the sweep arrived carrying his bundle of rods and brush which he pushed up the chimney.

"I'm afraid I won't be able to do it this evening, ma'am," he said as Mummy went to the door to let him in. "I've got to go somewhere this evening, and if I stop to sweep this chimney I'll be late. But if you like I'll leave my kit here and come back first thing on Monday morning."

"That would happen," muttered Billy, who had overheard the

## WORDS BY NUMBER

CAN you change the numbers into letters to make words which will fit the following clues?

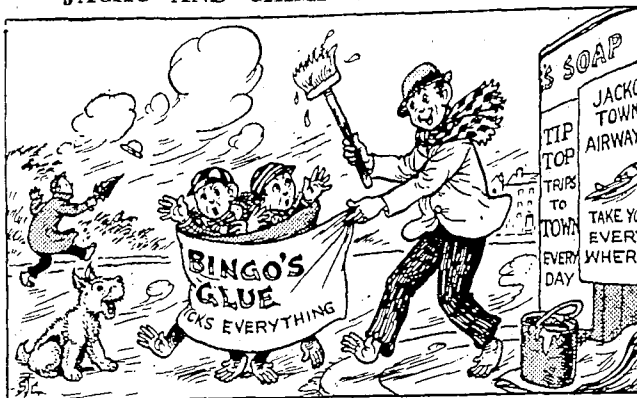
1. 2. 7.—Seed container.
3. 4. 5. 6.—Small fish of the trout family.
4. 5. 6. 7.—Difficult.
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.—Sea-duck.

## FIND THE TOWNS

Can you re-arrange the syllables so that they form the names of eight British towns?

OLD-PORT, Little-ham, New-stairs.  
Ring-ford, Broad-water.  
Fresh-ton, Long-hampton, Bland-wood.

## JACKO AND CHIMP STICK TOGETHER



Mr. Bill Sticker was having a difficult time, pasting posters on a very windy day. Presently along came Jacko and Chimp. "I wonder how he will manage with that long post?" said Chimp. "Perhaps he will get it wrapped around himself," giggled Jacko. But no sooner had he spoken than the wind whipped the poster out of Mr. Bill Sticker's hand—and Jacko and Chimp found themselves firmly wrapped around!

## SIMPLY IMMENSE

A GARDENER from Stockton-on-Tees

Grew a wonderful crop of sweet peas.

They were simply immense,  
Hiding ten yards of fence,  
And a number of horse-chestnut trees.

## TONGUE TWISTER

SAY three times quickly: More mixed biscuits.

## THE WRONG END

"Hi. Come quickly. Jack's fallen in the pond. He's up to his ankles."

"Well, if he's only up to his ankles he can walk out."

"No, he can't. He went in head first."

## HEADACHE

HIS Dad was in the garden,  
And Jack, all ears and eyes,  
Was plying him with questions—  
A hundred Hows and Whys.

He wondered why the marrows  
Grew down there on the ground,  
While tiny little acorns  
On giant oaks were found.

"Well, just suppose," said father,  
"One day when it was hot,  
You found beneath an oak tree  
A quiet shady spot."

"Down fell a little acorn  
And tapped you on the head,  
What if a great big marrow  
Had grown up there instead!"

## ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Missing anagrams. Warden, warned, wander, Darwin, Andrew

Words by numbers. Pod, char, hard, pochard. Find the towns. Oldham, Littlehampton, Newport, Ringwood, Broadstairs, Freshwater, Longton, Blandford

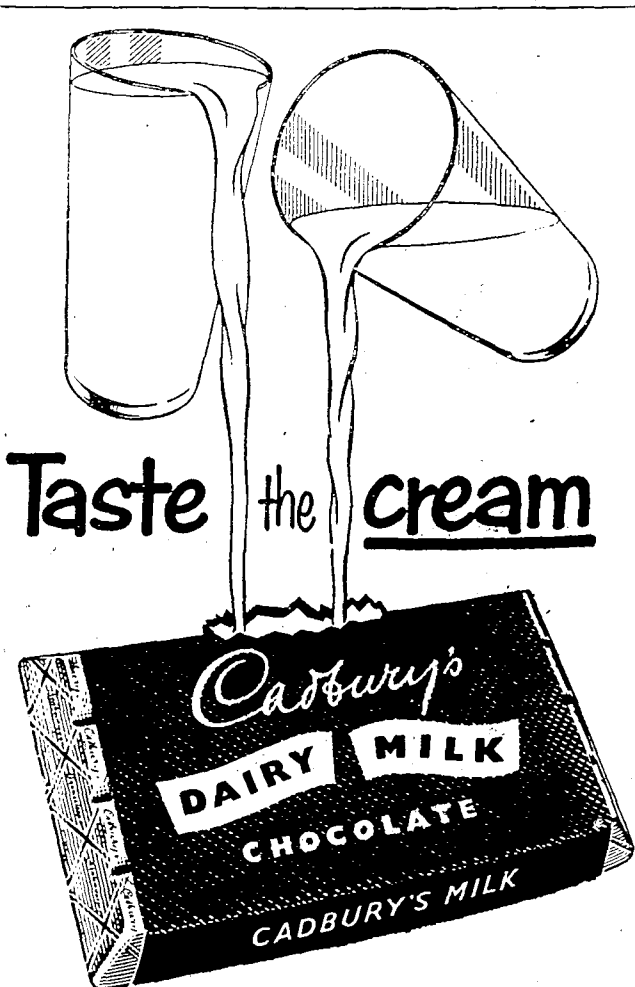
Black or white. White House, Black Beauty, Whitehall, Black Bess, White Ensign, White Rabbit

Complete the names. Copperfield, Nickleby, Rudge, Chuzzlewit

Catch question. Because they both grow down

## JUST A FEW WORDS

1. B. A minion is a favourite; and so a submissive dependent. (From French *ministre*, darling.)
2. C. Resilience is elasticity; recovery of form and position. (From Latin *resilire*, to leap back.)
3. A. Herculean means extremely difficult or dangerous, as the Twelve Labours of Hercules in Ancient Greek mythology.
4. A. To rescind is to annul; to abolish. (From Latin *rescindere*, -re-, back, and *scindere*, to cut.)
5. C. Itinerant means making journeys from place to place; travelling. (From Latin *iter*, *itineris*, a journey.)
6. B. Mottled means composed of parts of different kinds; variegated; a garment of mixed colours, such as a jester's wore.



Try it in 1d, 2d & 3d Milk Bars • Also try it in Milk Flake

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